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## Claims:

1. A method of reducing diabetes in patients who are at risk for developing  
5 diabetes, said method comprising administering to a patient, who is at risk for developing diabetes, an effective amount of an angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor for sufficient period of time to prevent the development of diabetes in such patients.
2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the diabetes is Type 2 Diabetes.
- 10 3. A method according to claim 1, wherein the angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is ramipril.
4. A method according to claim 2, wherein the angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is ramipril.
5. A method of slowing or reversing the decline of  $\beta$ -cell function in an individual  
15 comprising administering to an individual an effective amount of an angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor for a sufficient period of time to prevent the decline of  $\beta$ -cell function in such individual.
6. A method according to claim 5, wherein the angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is ramipril.
- 20 7. A method of increasing islet blood flow in an individual comprising: administering to an individual an effective amount of an angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor for a sufficient period of time to increase islet blood flow in such individual.
8. A method according to claim 7, wherein the angiotensin converting enzyme  
25 inhibitor is ramipril.
9. A method of increasing pancreatic  $\beta$ -cell perfusion in an individual comprising: administering to an individual an effective amount of an angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor for a sufficient period of time to increase pancreatic  $\beta$ -cell perfusion in such individual.
- 30 10. A method according to claim 9, wherein the angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is ramipril.
11. A method of lowering aldosterone secretion and renal potassium wasting in an individual by comprising administering to an individual an effective amount of an